

A NOTE ON THE OSTRACODA *LIMNICY THERE*
MOWBRAYENSIS CHAPMAN 1914, and *L. SICULA*
CHAPMAN 1919

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Plate I, figs. 1-6

These ostracods were described by Frederick Chapman from the deposits of Mowbray Swamp, North-west Tasmania, and Boneo Swamp, west of Cape Schanck, Victoria, and the types were housed in the National Museum, Melbourne.

The present writer noticed the close resemblance between these two forms and *Limnocythere percivali* Brehm, 1939 (*Zool. Anzeiger*, 127: 191) from the upper yellow deposits of the Pyramid Valley moa swamp, North Canterbury, New Zealand. After a study of Chapman's type material it was evident that revised descriptions and figures were desirable.

Limnocythere mowbrayensis and *L. sicula* appear to be two distinct species. This can hardly be confirmed with certainty on the basis of existing material, as none of the specimens of *L. mowbrayensis* is a mature adult. It further appears that Chapman figured a male specimen of *L. mowbrayensis*, and a female of *L. sicula*, thus making comparison more difficult. Until Mowbray material has been re-examined for adults of *L. mowbrayensis*, the possibility that the two forms are the same species cannot be definitely ruled out.

Chapman made no mention of types in his descriptions, nor is any specimen separated on the slides. As the writer was unable to definitely identify any specimen with Chapman's figures he concluded that no holotypes existed, and accordingly selected and figured a lectotype for each species.

The writer expresses his appreciation for the ready co-operation of the Director, National Museum of Victoria, in making the types available.

REVISED DESCRIPTION OF *Limnocythere mowbrayensis* AND
L. sicula

Limnocythere mowbrayensis Chapman. Pl. 1, figs. 1, 2 and 5.
1914. *Mem. nat. Mus. Melbourne*, No. 5, p. 60, pl. 2, figs. 8, a-c.

Carapace minute, subrectangular to subquadrate, somewhat higher at the antero-dorsal angle; moderately inflated with a deep

dorso-median sulcus; left valve overlapping right at anterior and posterior margins; dorsal margin straight, ventral margin arched; anterior margin low and broadly rounded; shell thin, pellucid, delicate; surfaces finely pitted and with four smooth tubercles, the postero-ventral one, faint; hinge straight, simple; radial canals numerous; duplicatures wide; muscle scars in a central vertical group of four; sexual dimorphism marked.

Dimensions of lectotype: L 0.38 mm.; H 0.22 mm.; W 0.17 mm.

Remarks: Distinguished from *L. sicula* by the delicate, finely pitted shell with weak tubercles and by the absence of a prominent horn-like process. Since none of the specimens is a mature adult the specific description may have to be amended when further material has been studied.

Limnocythere sicula Chapman. Pl. I, figs. 3, 4, 6.

1919. *Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria*, 32 (N.S.) (1): 29, Pl. 4, figs. 10, 11.

Carapace minute, subquadrate to subrectangular, highest at the antero-dorsal angle; strongly inflated with a deep dorso-median sulcus; left valve overlapping right at anterior and posterior margins; dorsal margin straight, ventral margin arched; anterior broadly rounded, posterior margin more compressed; shell thin and translucent, surfaces coarsely pitted and produced as three smooth, rounded, tubercles, prominent in adults; a prominent, recurved, ventro-median, hollow, horn-like process on each valve; hinge simple, straight; radial canals numerous; line of concrescence and inner margin coinciding, duplicatures wide; a central, vertical group of four muscle scars; sexual dimorphism marked.

Dimensions of lectotype: L 0.43 mm.; H 0.28 mm.; W 0.31 mm.

Remarks: Distinguished from *L. mowbrayensis* by the prominent, recurved, horn-like processes, the three prominent tubercles and the subquadrate, coarsely pitted shell with blunt antero-dorsal and postero-dorsal angles. The validity of this species will depend on comparison with adults of *L. mowbrayensis*.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE I

Fig. 1. *Limnocythere mowbrayensis* Chapman, 1914, right valve of lectotype (male); x 110.

Fig. 2. *L. mowbrayensis*, right valve (female); x 110.

Fig. 3. *L. sicula* Chapman, 1919, right valve of lectotype (female); x 110.

Fig. 4. *L. sicula*, left valve (male); x 110.

Fig. 5. *L. mowbrayensis*, dorsal aspect of lectotype; x 110.

Fig. 6. *L. sicula*, dorsal aspect of lectotype; x 110.